THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
Department of Fish and Game

STREAM SURVEY mouth T.36N., R.11W., S.5 FILE FORM No. .....

Date April 23, 1974

NAME...South Fork of East Fork New River . . . . COUNTY Trinity

STREAM SECTION From Mouth To 1 mile upstream LENGTH 1 mile

TRIBUTARY TO East Fork of New River Twp. ~~T37N R.12W~~ Sec. ~~6, 7 & 8~~

OTHER NAMES None RIVER SYSTEM New River

SOURCES OF DATA ... Personal observations of John Thomas & Carrol Powell, and references listed in survey.

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION
Include Name of Surveyor, Date, Etc.
LOCATION
RELATION TO OTHER WATERS
GENERAL DESCRIPTION
Watershed
Immediate Drainage Basin
Altitude (Range)
Gradient
Width
Depth
Flow (Range)
Velocity
Bottom
Spawning Areas
Pools
Shelter
Barriers
Diversions
Temperatures
Food
Aquatic Plants
Winter Conditions
Pollution
Springs
FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS
OTHER VERTEBRATES
FISHING INTENSITY
OTHER RECREATIONAL USE
ACCESSIBILITY
OWNERSHIP
POSTED OR OPEN
IMPROVEMENTS
PAST STOCKING
GENERAL ESTIMATE
RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT
SKETCH MAP
REFERENCES AND MAPS

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

See stream survey for East Fork New River. The South Fork of the East Fork is bounded on the east by Limestone Ridge, and on the southwest by Jim Jam Ridge. The drainage is approximately 4 miles long beginning at an elevation of 6,000 feet and terminating at the East Fork at an elevation of about 2,600 feet. This elevation change can be divided into four separate grades of steepness beginning in the headwaters:

1st mile--1,500' elev. change, or 28 % grade.
2nd mile--1,000' elev. change, or 18 % grade.
3rd mile-- 500' elev. change, or 9 % grade.
4th mile-- 400' elev. change or 7 % grade.

This survey deals mainly with the 4th mile, or the 1st mile of stream above the mouth.

*canyon is steep-sided in this area, but the stream gradient appears to be suitable to anadromous fish. The vegetation is composed mainly of Douglas fir, with alder and maple around the stream bed.

The stream width averaged between 6 and 8 feet across, with a mean depth of 1 to 3 feet. The flow was estimated at 3 cfs. The stream bottom was composed mainly of boulder, with some exposed bedrock. Rubble and gravel were present in lesser amounts.

Steelhead evidently use this stream for spawning in the fall and winter. No large pools were noted, and it is thought that the stream is presently not being used by summer steelhead as a holding area. Just below the mouth of the South Fork was a pool 4 feet deep, by 50 feet long, by 25 feet wide that contained one female summer steelhead. The main use of this stream in the surveyed area was as a nursery area for RT/SH. A very good population of yearlings and fingerlings were noted (2 to 6 inches). Their abundance, success and condition were good. The stream at this time appears to have no fishing pressure.

Pools

The pool to riffle ratio appeared to be 75% pools to 25% riffles in the surveyed area; however, all pools appeared to be of fairly small size (Ca. 8 to 10 feet).

FG 712

Shelter

The stream flows in a north-westerly direction and is fairly open. Because of this it get a lot of sunlight during mid-day. The alder and maple vegetation covers the stream fairly well. There is good shelter for RT/SH in the pools and under boulders in the pools. Exposed roots along the banks also offer good shelter.

Barriers

No barriers were noted in the surveyed area; however, because of the steepness of the drainage, there were probably barriers to anadromous fish withing the 2nd stream-mile from the mouth. This should be checked out in any future survey of this drainage.

Diversions

There are no present diversions in this drainage. Some gold mining activity was carried out near the mouth on the western bank. Probably around the 1870% or 80's there was a waterway coming from the South Fork toward the mouth on the west side to hydraulic mine this area. Large mounds of old boulders are stacked up here near the mouth. There is a very faint sign of an old flume going along this bank to this area.

Temperatures

The following spot temperature checks were made:

Area	Date	Time	Water	Air
E.Fk. just above So. Fk.	8-l-73	18:20	71° F	90° F
S.Fk. of E.Fk. at mouth	8-l-73	18:45	63° F	76° F
E.Fk. just below S. Fk.	8-1-73	18:15	63° F	89° F
E.Fk. just above Pony Cr.	8-l-73	08:50	63° F	63° F

Food

Mayfly stonefly and caddis fly nymphs were noted. Fish seemed to be mainly feeding on flying terrestrial insects landing on the water surface. Food did not appear to be a limiting factor.

Aquatic Plants

None noted.

Winter Conditions

No notes on winter condition made.

Pollution

None.

Springs

None observed.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS

See last paragraph under GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

Accessibility

The following time checks were made while going into the area:

Area	Time	Accumulative Time
Weaverville	0	0'
Hawkins Bar	55 minutes	55 minutes
Denny	45 minutes	1 hr. 40 minutes
U.S.F.S. Corral	15 minutes	1 hr. 55 minutes
End of road and start of trail	5 minutes	2 hrs.
Start of trail (time by horse)	0	0
Whiskey Creek	23 minutes	23 minutes
Unknown tributary (cabin present)	17 minutes	40 minutes
Whites Creek	15 minutes	55 minutes
Pony Creek trail junction	6 minutes	1 hr. 1 minute
Semore Gulch (time approx.)	20 minutes	1 hr. 21 minutes
So. Fk. of E. Fk. New River	24 minutes	1 hr. 45 minutes

There is no trail down to the South Fork. It is necessary to start down to the mouth of this stream about 2 to 300 feet before observing the mouth of this stream.

Ownership

This drainage is entirely inside the Trinity National Forest and is a part of the Trinity Alps Wilderness Area. The entire drainage is open to public use.

Improvements

None. See survey for East Fork of New River for 7-31-73 through 8-2-73.

Past Stocking

None.

General Estimate

This is an important spawning and nursery stream for steelhead. It is one of three major tributaries of the East Fork of New River; the other 2 being Pony Creek and Cabin Creek. It is probably the most important of the 3 streams as habitat for steelhead.

Recommended Management

Continue to manage stream as a valuable spawning, rearing and possible holding area for steelhead. The stream should be checked in following surveys to determine the upstream limits for steelhead. Also, if a large barrier exists in this stream, then the stream should be checked above this barrier to determine if there is a resident population of RT present above the barrier. If the stream is barren above, then the possibility exist for habitat for rare and endangered species as this country is presently very isolated.

References and Maps

U.S.F.S. Trinity National Forest Map
U.S.G.S. 15' quads for Ironside Mtn., Salmon Mtn., Cecilville and Helena.

Photos

In Weaverville file of mouth of South Fork of East Fork New River, and pool below South Fork where female summer steelhead was observed.

John L. Thomas

John L. Thomas
Assistant Fishery Biologist

EAST FORK OF NEW RIVER

This survey was conducted on 7/31 thru 8/2/73 by John Thomas (Assistant Fishery Biologist) & Carrol Powell (Forest Technician) Photos and negatives in Weaverville fisheries file. Area covered is Pony Lake, Mullane Corral Pond & E. Ek. New R. drainage.